

FOR FEDERAL INSURANCE LAW

SENATOR DRYDEN AND J. M. BECK
GIVE ROOSEVELT'S ASSENT.

President of the Prudential Life Will Re-introduce in the Senate His Bill of Last Session, With Assurances of the Administration's Full Support.

OSTEN BAY, Aug. 16.—Senator John F. Dryden of New Jersey and J. M. Beck, formerly Assistant United States Attorney-General and now counsel for the Mutual Life, came here today to confer with the President on Federal control of the insurance business.

After the conference all three were hopeful that Federal control would soon and surely come.

Senator Dryden had a bill before the last Congress for the establishment of Federal control of insurance. The bill was in committee when Congress adjourned.

After his conference with the President the Senator decided that he will reintroduce the bill at the next session in somewhat altered form, though essentially the same, and he believes the bill will have the Administration's support. The constitutional obstacles to such a law are not expected to be insurmountable.

Senator Dryden arrived here on the 12:20 train. Mr. Beck missed that train, so he hired a special, so important was this conference deemed. Both lunched at Sagamore Hill. Upon their return to the station for the 4:20 train Senator Dryden said:

"We have had a satisfactory conference."

The Senator is president of the Prudential Life Insurance Company and he understands the insurance business. The President went over the bill with the Senator and gave his full assent to its provisions.

In his last message to Congress the President said:

"The business of insurance vitally affects the great mass of the people of the United States and is national in its character. It involves a multitude of transactions among the people of different States and between American companies and foreign Governments."

"I urge that the Congress carefully consider whether the power of the bureau of corporations cannot constitutionally be extended to cover interstate transactions in insurance."

The bill Senator Dryden will father carries out fully the President's idea.

"Nearly all the present-day insurance companies are over the country," said Senator Dryden, "desire national supervision. The laws in the various States differ, and that gives fifty different departments supervision. Every company would naturally prefer just one set of regulations, for that would make it so much easier to shape policy."

"The measure I introduced and shall reintroduce in the Senate provides for the supervision of insurance by the bureau of corporations of the Department of Commerce and Labor. I wanted to sound public sentiment on the matter by means of the bill."

"It is not to be denied that there are serious legal obstacles under the Constitution as interpreted by many able lawyers, and it remains to be seen whether such a statute as we propose can be made effective. There are those who hold that insurance is not interstate commerce and is therefore not covered by the article giving Congress power to regulate such commerce. But all Supreme Court decisions have referred to State laws, since there is no Federal statute."

The case of Paul vs. Virginia, decided in the Supreme Court in 1855, has been cited as a case in point. It was a State case. The Supreme Court has yet to give a decision relative to a Federal statute. Senator Dryden and Mr. Beck, both well versed in insurance law, firmly believe the Supreme Court will support such a Federal statute.

"If I thought," said Mr. Beck, "that the constitutional objections to a Federal statute were insuperable, we shouldn't bother to frame it. I firmly believe that if Congress enacts the law that is wanted such a law would stand the scrutiny of the Supreme Court. Of course, the only way to bring the matter before the Supreme Court is by means of such a law."

"We in this country are further behind in the matter of national control of the insurance business," went on Mr. Beck, "than Australia, which has recently obtained Federal control of insurance. In Germany the control of insurance was taken away from the various kingdoms and principalities and centralized under the Imperial Government. Here fifty different departments control insurance, and in this country \$300,000,000 worth of insurance business is done annually."

Mr. Beck added that provision could be made to put insurance direction under the Treasury Department or under any other department of the Government, but would put it under the bureau of corporations, which already deals more or less with insurance so far as it is concerned with interstate commerce.

The chief objection to Federal control of insurance is expected to come from the various States, which will claim a right to control for themselves all insurance business transacted within their boundaries. But it is pointed out that the companies would have to do only with the companies doing an interstate business. Smaller companies confined to single States would still be controlled by the insurance laws of those States.

Mr. Beck returned from the Hill in time to make the 4:20 train, so he did not have to take the special train back. Both he and Senator Dryden were greatly pleased with the hearty support the President gave them in their endeavors to improve insurance conditions.

"JUMP, TILLY, JUMP"

Elephant Trainer Saves His Charge From a Train Wreck in Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 16.—While standing on the main track of the Big Four Railroad at Brookville, this morning, the train bearing Robinson's circus was run into by a fast freight which was going thirty-five miles an hour. Both engines were demolished and several of the cars of the circus train were thrown from the track. The employees were nearly all asleep at the time, and were thrown violently from their bunks to the floor of the cars, and several of them were badly injured. The engine and firemen, having warning of the collision, jumped and escaped.

The trainer of the trick elephant Tilly was in the car with her, when he looked up the road and saw the freight bearing down upon the train. Seeing it did not slacken its speed he called out "Jump, Tilly, jump!"

The elephant was used to the command and, obeying the trainer, she jumped and was thrown from the car as he leaped from it to the ground. Both escaped without injury save a slight sprain received by the elephant.

SUIT TO SWALLOW HARLEM.

The Initial Bite Is Made at One Edge of the Polo Grounds.

William W. Delamater has begun two actions in the Supreme Court to obtain possession of property at 155th street and Eighth avenue, where the Polo Grounds are. The defendants in one action are Thomas F. Brennan and Harriet G. Coogan and in the other the National Exhibition Company and Mrs. Coogan, who is the wife of James J. Coogan. Mrs. Coogan is in Newport just now, and Supreme Court Justice Greenbaum granted permission yesterday for the service of the summons on her by mail and publication.

Delamater alleges that he formerly owned in fee simple a one-hundredth interest in the lot on which Brennan's saloon stands, at the corner of 155th street, and in the land that forms the Polo grounds. He transferred and deeded, he says, all his right, title and interest therein to the Union Association of Harleins, on March 14, 1901, but has been unable to make a delivery of the property because of the occupancy of the defendants. He asks, therefore, that the court determine the value of his interest and award him a judgment for that amount. A lis pendens was filed against each piece of property yesterday.

These suits are supposed to be a new move in the attempt of a number of hopeful persons to obtain possession of all Harlem under an alleged deed dated back a couple of hundred years or more. Thomas G. Shearman is Delamater's lawyer.

CROKER READY TO FORGIVE.

Won't Talk About Daughter's Elopement, but Is in an Amiable Mood.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Aug. 16.—It was evident today that Richard Croker had received word from his daughter, Florence, who is said to have eloped from Aix-les-Bains with an Italian. A correspondent of THE SUN saw him to-day on his return from the races at Kempton Park. Yesterday he was talking about to-day was almost dumb. The reporter asked him if he had any tidings of his daughter. He answered, "I can't say."

Mr. Croker was in a most amiable mood. He parried all questions in a non-committal manner, smiling all the time.

From a friend of Mr. Croker it was learned that he had received all the details of his daughter's escapade. He was aware of her whereabouts, but the friend was secretive as to the father and wouldn't say where the runaways were except that they were not in London. It is believed, judging from Mr. Croker's attitude, that if he finds the Italian a suitable choice he will treat the elopement as a romantic episode illustrative of the tendency of a Croker to have his own way. He certainly shows neither grief nor anger.

WASH NATHAN HALE'S FACE.

Park Department Sudsman Clean Up the Patriotic Statue.

Nathan Hale was forced yesterday to submit to a bath and massage administered by two employees of the Park Department. They had no ladder, the shorter of which was put up against the pedestal. The top of the other rested on the half bared bosom of the young soldier. While one of the men rubbed down the shapely legs the other washed the face, using soap and water, and not seeming to care whether or not the suds got in the eyes. A shifting crowd of fifty or more persons was on Broadway in front of the hero all the afternoon. The man on top of the ladder after washing the face rubbed it with a skilled masseur. Occasionally he patted the cheeks, causing the crowd to smile. The publicity of the exhibition attracted many persons who saw the statue for the first time and got up close to the City Hall Park fence to read the inscription on the pedestal and find out who Nathan Hale was. The strangers observed that his arms were bound and that he could not have made his own toilet if he would.

RUMORS OF A NEW ROGERS R. R.

Boston Hears That He Will Control Bulk of New England's Coal.

BOSTON, Aug. 16.—A statement was circulated in the financial district to-day outlining what purports to be a scheme of H. H. Rogers for bringing Pocahontas and New River coal over the new rail and water route to Boston, and distributing it through New England.

It was said that the Massachusetts gas companies would undoubtedly secure their future coal supply from this source, and that Mr. Rogers' affiliations in New England could get him contracts for supplying the New York, New Haven and Hartford, the Boston and Maine and Boston and Albany railroads, the Boston elevated railway and many large industrial concerns with coal.

One feature mentioned was that Mr. Rogers' new enterprise—incorporated in West Virginia as the Deep Water Railroad and in Virginia as the Tidewater Railroad—is being built outside the existing Pocahontas line, and will constitute an independent line parallel to both the Norfolk and Western and the Chesapeake and Ohio, between which lines the bulk of New England water route coal traffic now divides.

It is asserted that this line will tap about 100,000 acres of coal land, which Mr. Rogers now has in the New River district, and that it will run from Norfolk, where it is stated he has acquired extensive terminals, preparatory to bringing coal by water to Boston with his own line of steamers and barges.

FIT OF DRESS IN DISPUTE.

Probation Officer Called as Expert Says Skirt Was Not Made Properly.

Magistrate Baker was called upon in the Harlem court yesterday to pass judgment as to whether a woman's dress fitted. Louis Pastor, a tailor, of 126 Lenox avenue was there on a summons obtained by Mrs. E. D. Rose of 188 East 101st street.

Mrs. Rose said that she gave Pastor a piece of black voile cloth several weeks ago to make up into a dress, and that she called him to bring the dress, and he demanded the dress, but he would not deliver it to her. She then went to court and got the summons. Pastor said that he had been a tailor for twenty years, and he knew his business. The Magistrate called Mr. McAuley, the probation officer of the court, and told her to go in his private room and try on the skirt. She did so and reported that it was not made right on one side.

Mrs. Rose then demanded the goods, but the tailor said that he would not give them up unless she paid him \$4 for the work he had done. The Magistrate then ordered him either to make the skirt fit or return the cloth. The tailor said the skirt was all right, but he would not do any more work on the dress unless he got his money. He was then ordered to return it to Mrs. Rose, which he did, much against his wishes.

Incident upon having Burnett's Vanilla.—Ad

JEWES HAVE DR. DEWEY'S SCALP

PLEGGED TO RESIGN LIBRARY DIRECTORSHIP BEFORE DEC. 31.

Printed Circular Defending Lake Placid Club and Its Methods Results in His Downfall—Regents Expect to Name Successor at Their October Meeting.

ALBANY, Aug. 16.—Jewish opposition to Melvil Dewey has accomplished what every other influence exerted frequently during the last ten years, failed to procure. Dr. Dewey is pledged to resign before Dec. 31, as director of the State Library, which pays a salary of \$4,000.

This fact was learned to-day, when it was reported that the State Board of Regents already had Dr. Dewey's resignation. Investigation developed that Dr. Dewey at the June meeting of the board was informed that he would have to work, and retire from the State's service. Last April, Mr. Dewey, was heard by the Regents on a complaint of prominent Jews that he had refused to admit Jews as guests or members of his Lake Placid Club, in the Adirondacks.

The Jews were much stirred up over this at the time and Regent Edward Lauterbach and Louis Marshall of New York city carried the matter before the Regents, with the result that Dr. Dewey was told to be good, after he had said that no reflection upon Jews had been intended. Dr. Dewey will resign in time to permit the Board of Regents to accept his resignation at its October meeting.

Dr. Dewey has had quite a tempestuous career since he entered the State's service in 1888. His ability, assiduity and integrity never have been questioned, but he never was what politicians term a good "mixer," and as a result his official life has been strewn with many thorns and brambles.

He weathered all storms, however, because of his exceptional ability, until he got caught in the squalls caused by the educational unification fight, when he retired as secretary of the State Board of Regents, though remaining as director of the State Library.

BIG DYNAMITE EXPLOSION.

Three Killed and Many Injured Near San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 16.—In a terrific explosion at the Judson dynamite works near Point Richmond, this afternoon three men were killed and many were injured. Fire from the wrecked buildings spread rapidly, and just before 3 o'clock a second explosion occurred, completely demolishing the works. Scores of rescuers were at work at the time of the second explosion and it is feared that the list of dead and injured may be very great. San Francisco was shaken by the explosion and windows were broken by the force of the concussion. The dead are: W. R. Endrie, foreman of the nitroglycerin mixing house; Charles Olsen, employed in the mixing house; and Herman Felix, another employee.

Supt. Nelson, Foreman Kruger and E. A. Howell organized a fire brigade and tried to get the fire under control, but the danger was so great that they were forced to communicate to surrounding buildings and, for a time their heroic work seemed destined to be successful, but the second explosion caused even greater havoc.

Fifty or more employees of the works were fighting the fire caused by the first explosion when the second came. Many of them were crowded around the house that blew up, the nitroglycerin storage house, and the death list may be swelled.

SHOT A BROTHER COP.

Accident at Police Practice in Fourteenth Regiment Armory, Brooklyn.

While Patrolman Thomas F. Powers of the Fourth street station, Long Island City, was being taught how to fire a revolver, at the Fourteenth Regiment armory, Brooklyn, yesterday afternoon, by a police instructor, he accidentally shot Patrolman John McLaughlin of the same station in the knee. The wounded man is in Seney Hospital.

FLIER WRECK BLAME PLACED.

Coroner Orders Arrest of Telegraph Operator for Twentieth Century Train Crash.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Aug. 16.—Coroner Siegelstein to-night rendered his verdict in the investigation of the wreck of the Lake Shore's Twentieth Century Limited, at Mentor, Ohio, on June 21, and recommended that Walter F. Minor, the telegraph operator at that station, be held for manslaughter.

The coroner charges that he opened the switch which caused the disaster. Nineteen persons lost their lives and over a score were injured in the wreck. Coroner Siegelstein in his verdict says in part:

"I find that the said switch was opened by Walter F. Minor, the night telegraph operator in charge of the station. I reach this finding by deduction, i. e.: After having read over the notes on the testimony taken at the Painesville inquest, which I attended, and the testimony taken at my own inquest, I find that the time, according to observations taken by the office, from which the headlight of the Twentieth Century Limited train is seen approaching from the depot platform at Mentor until it reaches the switch is a maximum of thirty-one seconds."

"During this brief time, if Mr. Minor did not throw the switch on the night of June 21, and another person did, then that person must have appeared at the switch from some unknown place, unlocked the lock with a key, removed the lock, taken the coupling pin out, turned the switch, put the coupling pin in place again, placed the lock in the hole of the coupling pin, locked the lock, and disappeared—a physical impossibility, in my opinion."

"Hence I can only come to the conclusion, which is reinforced by other points of evidence, that Walter F. Minor opened the switch, but whether he did so of his own volition or by telegraphic orders of a superior officer, I am not prepared to say."

Latest Marine Intelligence.

Arrived: St. Cécile Princess, Philadelphia, Aug. 15; St. Cécile, Genoa, Aug. 16.

DEWEY'S "BRUT-CUVEE" CHAMPAGNE. One bottle will convince you of its superiority. Dr. Dewey & Sons Co., 121 Fulton St., New York.

ATTEMPT ON EMPRESS'S LIFE.

Chinese Soldier Tries to Kill the Dowager, but Fails.

Special Cable Dispatch to THE SUN. BERLIN, Aug. 16.—A despatch to the Frankfurter Zeitung from Tientsin says that as the Dowager Empress was leaving the northwest gate in a litter on her way to the summer palace a man in the uniform of a soldier attempted to kill her. A soldier of the Imperial Guard promptly bayoneted him. The Empress was unhurt.

CORTELYOU TO SEE PRESIDENT.

Believed the Treasury Portfolio Will Be Tendered to Him To-day.

OSTEN BAY, Aug. 16.—Postmaster-General Cortelyou is expected here to-morrow to confer with the President. The nature of the conference is not definitely known, but it is believed that the President will tender to Mr. Cortelyou the Treasury portfolio, to be taken after Secretary Shaw retires in February.

KNEIPP CURE FOR JOHN D.

Rockefeller Walks Barefoot Through the Dewy Grass Each Morn.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, Aug. 16.—In an effort to regain his health John D. Rockefeller, the oil king, has resorted to the Kneipp cure. Every morning early he slips out of the kitchen door barefooted and wanders through the grass, still laden with dew.

The first morning Mr. Rockefeller stole through the kitchen and wandered over the dewy lawn, the servants and employees gazed at him in amazement. Now they have become accustomed to it, and every morning make it a point to be near the kitchen door to see him emerge in barefoot and walk quietly through the wet grass. His feet are tender and occasionally he strikes some hard substance and then ejaculates an "oh" and continues, laughing at the sacrifice he is making for health's sake.

TAFT VISITS NEGROS ISLAND.

Americans Inspect a Large Sugar Plantation There.

Special Cable Dispatches to THE SUN. HONOLULU, Aug. 16.—Thirty-five members of Congress and Secretary Taft made the journey to the island of Negroes to-day on a coast guard cutter and landed on a huge surf raft. They visited a large sugar plantation, observed the processes of planting and milling and exhaustively questioned the planters.

MANILA, Aug. 16.—Hongkong and Canton are preparing elaborate entertainments in honor of Secretary Taft and his party. The Governor-General of Hongkong and the Viceroy of Canton will give banquets in honor of the visitors.

The Dowager Empress is anxious to know if Miss Roosevelt will visit Peking.

LOOMIS SAYS HE'LL RESIGN.

Expects to Take a Diplomatic Post, But Doesn't Know Where.

SPRINGFIELD, Ohio, Aug. 16.—Francis B. Loomis, Assistant Secretary of State, to-day saw the report from Lenox, Mass., that Col. W. C. Sanger is to be made Assistant Secretary of State when Mr. Root assumes the portfolio. Mr. Loomis in dictation his intention to resign from the State Department. He also said that upon leaving his present position he expects to take a diplomatic post, and that he present has no idea to what country he will be assigned. His statement is as follows:

"I know little or nothing of a definite nature concerning the report that Col. William Carey Sanger is to be selected by Secretary Root to succeed me when I resign to go abroad, as I hope to do. I do know Col. Sanger. He is an excellent man, and was a very efficient Assistant Secretary of War under Mr. Root, whose personal friend of long standing he is."

Their relations are of an intimate character, and I should think Col. Sanger the type of man Mr. Root would most desire for his chief lieutenant in important official work requiring the peculiar close confidential relation between principal and subordinate which the careful administration of foreign affairs renders necessary."

KEPT IN CASKET WITH SNAKES.

Supposed Wife of Hypnotist Rescued at Society Women's Instance.

SPRINGFIELD, Aug. 16.—Prof. Seldenberg, of New York, was arrested to-night on complaint of several society women of the city, headed by Mrs. E. S. Kelly, a millionaire's wife, on the charge of keeping his supposed wife under hypnotic power in a casket of reptiles against her will.

Mrs. Florence Baldwin, upon visiting Spring Grove Park, learned that this woman exclaimed before she was put under the spell last Monday: "Oh, if I had someone to help me." She is afraid of snakes, but notwithstanding this she is compelled by the police to lie in the casket all the week, covered with crawling snakes.

The protest against by the society women obtained success. Baldwin urged the police to aid the humane society to arrest Prof. Seldenberg under a health regulation, urging that the woman's health was being ruined by being subjected to such a test, and that the reptiles were filthy.

The police and Dr. D. W. Spence of the humane society, arrested Prof. Seldenberg to-night, and the woman, who is in charge Mrs. Baldwin, will be kept from the professor until she comes out from the hypnotic spell and can speak for herself.

TRIED TO WRECK STATE PIER.

Young Man Escapes From Sanatorium and Wields a Crowbar.

BABYLON, L. I., Aug. 16.—The State pier was damaged to-day by John Seymour, 24 years old, a patient at Muncie's sanatorium, who escaped from custody. Seymour is a resident of Wantagh. He has been under treatment for some times but never showed any signs of violence until to-day.

He escaped and wandered to the pier which has belonged to the Government of the State since Gov. Flower purchased the Fire Island Hotel for quarantine purposes years ago. Seymour obtained a lever and began ripping the pier to pieces. He succeeded in making quite a hole in the flooring when an officer responded to an alarm and took him in custody.

Seymour was arraigned before Justice Cooper, who later paroled him in the custody of his father. Seymour appears to have a delusion that the State doesn't own the pier and that it should be destroyed.

Reported by Marconi Wireless.

Steamship Baltic, eighty-five miles east of Nantucket lightship, at 10 P. M., west-bound.

18 HOURS TO CHICAGO OVER ROCK BALLAST.

The "Pennsylvania Special" gives the passenger a quick transfer from New York to Chicago between business hours over a smooth, dustless road-bed.—Ad.

Sun.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1905.
Fair to-day and to-morrow; fresh
north to northeast winds.

ENVOYS NOW AT
CRITICAL STAGE.

Begin To-day a Discussion
of Japan's Demands for
Land and Money.

HOPE OF PEACE NOT GONE.

Japanese Spokesman Believes
Agreement Will Be Reached.

All Minor Conditions Accepted—Japanese to Control Chinese Eastern Railroad From Port Arthur to Within Ten Miles of Harbin—Belief That Japanese Envoys Are Ready to Modify Some of the Demands in Order to Secure a Treaty—Their Insistence on Secrecy of the Conference Debate Sustains This View.

PORTSMOUTH, N. H., Aug. 16.—In the face of generally gloomy forecast, the prediction is hazarded that the peace conference will not end disastrously with the week now only half finished. From the first the prophets of evil have contended daily that the exchanges between the envoys of Russia and Japan were a mere matter of hours, but the trend of events has demonstrated that the two belligerents have entrusted their affairs to men who are alive to the heavy responsibilities imposed upon them by their imperial masters and are honestly and conscientiously striving to perform their duty according to their respective lights.

They have displayed a temper in the face of trying circumstances that commands respect and admiration, and when they have shown that if the worst should come and the worst means a resumption of hostilities, their work may be measured in the balance of public opinion and not found wanting.

To-night, after two long sessions, broken only by a recess of short duration, the envoys are comforted by the knowledge that they have done much that is worthy of praise. To-morrow the tug of war will be begun, and judged by what has passed it will not be a struggle of short duration, but will be fought with bulldog perseverance by all concerned until there is a decision or a draw.

Of the twelve conditions precedent to peace laid down by Japan upon the second day of the conference seven have been adjusted practically by unanimous agreement between the envoys. The two sessions to-day were devoted entirely to articles 7 and 8 of the Japanese terms, both of which related to the demand for Japan for the possession of the Eastern Chinese Railway, a Russian institution, for the distance between Port Arthur and Harbin. An agreement was reached before the second session ended except upon one minor point, which does not promise an obstacle to a complete understanding.

Under articles 7 and 8, adopted to-day, provision is made for the future control of the Eastern Chinese Railway both in Siberia and Manchuria. The agreement provides that Japan shall control the road from Port Arthur to within ten miles of Harbin, and Russia shall have control from that point to Vladivostok.

CRITICAL ISSUES TO-DAY. The remaining articles, four in number, will be taken up to-morrow. They are all related in the sense of being punitive, and there is a disposition on the part of the envoys to regard them as capable of consideration for general discussion.

Article V, which concerns the Japanese demand for the cession of Sakhalin Island and was passed over yesterday by mutual consent after the envoys found they could not agree, is one of the remaining points in dispute. The others relate to the demand of Japan for remuneration for the cost of the war, the limitation of Russian naval strength in the Pacific, the transfer of fishing rights at the mouth of the Amur River to Japan, and it is surmised, the possession of interned Russian ships or the grant of commercial privileges at Vladivostok.

It is useless at this time to attempt to forecast what the outcome of the consideration of these remaining articles will be. Newspaper readers should understand that the details of the conference have never become known. Only a few scattered facts have appeared in a myriad of speculative assertion. What has been said by the plenipotentiaries in their daily deliberations has not been furnished to the press, so well have those who were present observed the spirit of their compact to refrain from talking. It is true that certain things have leaked out, and the opportunity for intelligent discussion of the business before the conference has been afforded by significant although somewhat indefinite remarks, but there has been no full understanding given of the arguments of either side.

How useless it is in these conditions to say that the conference will end within a day or two is apparent to the intelligent mind. But it may be added, even the envoys do not know what the outcome will be, or at least the Russian envoys do not, if they are honest in what they have told those who possess their confidence.

As for the Japanese, they are saying nothing. They possess the key to the difficult situation. But whether they will use it to unlock the door to peace is something that only they themselves are able to explain. They have hidden themselves behind an inscrutable veil that defies the penetration of the European and the Occidental mind and ability.

There are reports, which are accepted confidently in some quarters, that the Russians have never been for peace and are only going through the form of negotiation out of respect to the President of the United States, who brought them here, and regard for the opinion of the world. To believe these mere rumors is to place Mr. Witte and Baron Rosen in the category of common hypocrites and they certainly have not created that impression of their characters by their conduct since they have been in Portsmouth. It is true that they have been pessimistic from the first as to the outcome of the exchanges, but there are indications to-night that they are inclined to be hopeful. There seems to be every reason for the assumption that they are willing to make peace if it can be secured without a loss of Russian pride and honor.

Granting that the Russian envoys are sincerely anxious to arrange a treaty for the resumption of relations with their enemy, a heavy responsibility must rest upon the Japanese plenipotentiaries in the conduct of the negotiations from now on. Upon them more than upon their adversaries depends the adjustment of the question whether there shall be peace or war. What they intend to do nobody knows outside of the limited Japanese circle. They may have a great surprise in store, but they are conveying no hint of it.

It is not beyond the bounds of reason or possibility that if the worst comes to the worst and the Portsmouth conference is on the point of ending abortively they will show a magnanimity that will appeal to the heart of the civilized world and place the little people of the East upon a higher pedestal than their wonderful powers as soldiers and sailors have given them the right to occupy.

ALL CAUSES OF THE WAR REMOVED. In all this whirl of speculation and uncertainty surrounding the outcome of the peace negotiations, the fact has been apparently overlooked that already the Japanese have gained every concession which they sought from Russia prior to the outbreak of hostilities. Not a single thing for which Japan contended in the days when Russian troops occupied Manchuria and threatened the Korean border has been withheld by the Russian plenipotentiaries in the week of negotiation that has passed at Portsmouth. Russia has consented to recognize the preponderance of Japan's influence in Korea. She has agreed to guarantee the integrity of China and to accept the principle of the open door. She has promised herself to withdraw her troops from Manchuria. In fact, she has given her pledge to leave China and Korea alone in the future, and never again to menace the peace and territory of Japan.

These were the things for which Japan went to war after declaring that she had no other purpose than to preserve her own country from the danger of Russia's ambitious schemes. More than that, Japan has come into her own again through her success at Port Arthur, and she now controls the Liaotung peninsula, which Russia occupied and virtually owned, and the great railway which gave the Russians access to the sea at all seasons of the year. It will be seen from the above statement of what has been accomplished at the Portsmouth conference that all the disputes which led to the bloody Far Eastern war have been adjusted to the satisfaction of Japan. The other demands made by the Tokio Government as conditions precedent to peace were the outcome of hostilities, and are all of a punitive nature. Japan through her envoys at Portsmouth has secured promises from Russia that the danger that arose from the occupation of Chinese territory by the Russian forces shall never threaten again. She knows that she has nothing more to fear from the Slavic peril.

WILL JAPAN YIELD SOMETHING? In these circumstances it is not unnatural to ask whether the Japanese really intend to throw away the remarkable success they have attained at Portsmouth, refusing to deviate one iota from the letter of the additional demands which they have made, none of them existing prior to the war and nearly all of a punitive or humiliating character.

It is very generally asserted that the Japanese conditions represent the irreducible minimum of that Government's demands and that all of them must be accepted in their entirety to insure peace. But Japan's envoys have shown on more than one occasion since the negotiations began that they were willing to compromise if the necessity existed. Russia has, in fact, gained one or two points, and the articles of the treaty so far as it has been completed do not follow in exact, or, in some cases, in general terms, the language of the Japanese demands, which, according to popular understanding, must to insure peace be accepted by Russia without the change of a word.

So strong was the belief in Japan's intentions to withdraw from the conference if her demands were not instantly accepted by the Russian envoys that the decision of the latter to submit counter propositions was regarded very generally as an ending of the negotiations. When Russia's counter proposals were handed to Baron Komura and Mr. Takahira they asked only a few hours in which to submit an answer. All the while Komura knew that the end had come. They could see no other result from Russia's refusal to accept Japan's "irreducible minimum" of demands. In those uncertain and trying few hours between the presentation of Russia's counter proposals and the time when Japan was to submit her answer, it was freely predicted

that only they themselves are able to explain. They have hidden themselves behind an inscrutable veil that defies the penetration of the European and the Occidental mind and ability.

There are reports, which are accepted confidently in some quarters, that the Russians have never been for peace and are only going through the form of negotiation out of respect to the President of the United States, who brought them here, and regard for the opinion of the world. To believe these mere rumors is to place Mr. Witte and Baron Rosen in the category of common hypocrites and they certainly have not created that impression of their characters by their conduct since they have been in Portsmouth. It is true that they have been pessimistic from the first as to the outcome of the exchanges, but there are indications to-night that they are inclined to be hopeful. There seems to be every reason for the assumption that they are willing to make peace if it can be secured without a loss of Russian pride and honor.

Granting that the Russian envoys are sincerely anxious to arrange a treaty for the resumption of relations with their enemy, a heavy responsibility must rest upon the Japanese plenipotentiaries in the conduct of the negotiations from now on. Upon them more than upon their adversaries depends the adjustment of the question whether there shall be peace or war